

Questions from CDFW

- Is there a metric for adequate regeneration? (Pg 2)
- Are there development and grazing pressures in the North Coast? (Pg 2)
- Is the Integrated Hardwood Range Management policy going to be updated? If not this policy needs to be cross referenced with it (Pg 3)
- Why are the studies on the effects of distribution and densities of hardwoods on flora and fauna only done on oaks and not other hardwoods? (Pg 4)
- Is Fire Safe an existing program? (Pg 6)

Defining who oversees procedures/how they will be carried out

- Who is assigned to cooperate with other agencies/organizations to provide necessary research, info, and education programs? (pg 4)
- Is the process of cooperating with the integrated hardwood range management program and private landowners to monitor hardwood habitats, already been established and who oversees it? (pg 4)
- Has VegCAMP done studies on effects of distribution and densities of hardwoods on flora and fauna? (Pg 4)
 - Allocate funding instead of saying contingent on funding. Where would the money likely come from?
- What would the commission do if CDFW opposes a project? (Pg 5)
- Did CDFW previously provide a liaison for RMAC, and when did it stop happening? (Pg 6)
- Who's responsible to include a statement in Director's report to the commission? (Pg 6)
- Expand upon County Oak conservation policies, or encourage counties to develop a hardwood conservation policy (pg 3)
 - If a project is not within timberlands what role would CAL FIRE play in project review?
 - How will the Board and Commission encourage multicounty and local approaches when conservation crosses county lines
 - Who will conduct the assessment/info/standards? Are these standards established?
 - How is the data shared that we encourage counties to collect?
 - There could be a common database created
- Need to elaborate on how often the Board and Commission will "periodically" meet to review implementation of this policy (pg 4 & 5)

Changes to Effects on the Environment

- There are 50 species of hardwood (pg 1)

- Hardwoods provide benefit to fisheries include woody debris, moderate water temp, contribute nutrients and food. (pg 1)
- Oaks play a large role in ecosystem, with high evapotranspiration rates, and contribute to rare natural communities. (pg 1)
- Hardwoods provide habitat to vertebrate and invertebrate species (pg 3)
- Hardwood resources should include monitoring for both habitat and associated species (pg 4)
- Remove that acorns are the highest natural carb food for deer (pg 5)

Change of Focus

- Should consider the quality of oak woodlands (pg 3)
- Focus more on drought, pests and disease, pollution, wildfire, and climate change, less on soil resources, air quality, rangeland, and recreation. (pg 3)
- Harvesting and other land uses may not always be able to be sustainable (i.e. remnant stands, impacts of climate change) (pg 3)
- Need to examine effectiveness of existing regulations on habitat and associated species (pg 4)
- Projects should focus on oak woodland restoration (pg 5)
- Sudden oak death should be included in monitoring (pg 5)
- CDFW should review proposed CEQA projects, focusing on cumulative effects (pg 5)
- CDFW should help with restoration and management of true oak hardwood forest ecosystem (pg 5)
- CDFW encourages maintenance, enhancement, or expansion of oak in other forested stands, for mast production. (pg 5)
- Board should develop provisions within Forest Practice Act to incentivize hardwood retention and projection (pg 6)
- Give more detail about the priorities of the 5 year assessment of the status of hardwood resources (pg 6)

A letter was sent to the Board on 8/14/17 from the Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch with concern about the reference to the Joint Hardwoods Policy being removed from Technical Rule Addendum #2. These are the main comments:

- 98% of all cavity containing and acorn producing oaks are lost in clearcutting/evenaged logging, causing tragic impacts to wildlife
- TRA#2 should keep reference to the Joint Hardwoods Policy until the Board gains a fact-based understanding of how Oaks in the Sierra are a critical resource as other species succumb to drought and bark beetle

- The Mule Deer herd's survival is threatened by the removal of oaks, which are critical for their survival through winter